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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,394	01/22/2001	Kiyonori Sekiguchi	P20503	9411

7055 7590 12/04/2003

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EXAMINER

LUU, SY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/765,394

Applicant(s)

SEKIGUCHI, KIYONORI

Examiner

Sy D Luu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2003 and 22 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: the word "showed" on line 3 should be changed to "shown". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saito et al. ("Saito", US 6,523,696 B1).

As per claim 1, Saito teaches an apparatus for remotely operating a plurality of information devices connected to a network provided with a plug-and-play function, said apparatus comprising:

a communication section that is configured to receive data from the network, while transmitting data to the information devices on the network, a connection detecting section that is configured to analyze communication section to detect that a remote display device providing an operation environment concerning a device to be operated to a user is connected to the network, said remote display device, a display generating section that is configured to generate an input display for use in inputting data instructed by the user to an information device selected by the user as the device to be operated, and transmit a generated input display to detected remote display the data received from the device; and a control section that is configured to control the device to be operated according to the data instructed by the user that is received at the communication section when the data instructed by the user is input on the input display on the remote display device. (figs. 7 and 20; abstract; col. 1, lines 60-67; col. 25, lines 59 et seq.).

As per claim 2, Saito teaches the display generating section generates a selection display to determine the device to be operated when the remote display device is a generated selection display to the detected remote display device, and the control section determines the device to be operated based on selection data received from the communication section when the selection data is input on the selection display on the remote display device (fig. 20; col. 28, lines 6-18).

As per claims 3-6, Saito teaches the display generating section to generate the selection display: (a) on which icons of information devices are shown that needs support of the remote display device operate, (b) including a character sequence for an operation guidance to the user, (c) wherein the control section determines contents of operations corresponding to a combination of the icons selected on the selection display on the remote display device, and (d) wherein when the apparatus receives from the remote display device a request for displaying a status of the

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device to be operated with the device designated, the apparatus transmits a status display indicative of the status of the device to be operated to the remote display device to display (figs. 20-21, 28 and 31; col. 28, lines 24 et seq.; col. 33, lines 57 et seq.).

As per claim 7, Saito further teaches a management table with which information on programs for converting format of data so that each of the information devices connected the network capable of handling the data, a first storing section that stores the programs; and a second storing section that stores input data from an information device selected as the device to be operated, wherein based on the information on programs registered with the management table, the control section starts up a program to convert the input data into data with format for an other device to be operated selected as another device to be operated (figs. 19 and 16A-16D; col. 24, lines 27 et seq.).

As per claims 8-9, Saito teaches: (a) the network to be an IEEE 1394 network operating in conformity IEEE 1394, and the management table has unique ID inherent to each information device including the remote display device, node assigned the information device connected to the IEEE network and the information on programs in relation to each other, and (b) an outside communication section that is configured to perform a communication over the internet; an IP address identifying section that is configured to identify a destination IP address from internet data received via the internet, an address relating table that relates an IP address assigned or a virtual IP address virtually assigned to the information device to the unique IP address; and a destination adapting section that is configured to add the unique ID corresponding to the virtual address to a destination portion at a header based on the address relating table to transmit on the

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network when the destination IP address of the internet data is the virtual IP address (col. 26, lines 15 -col. 27, line 42).

Claims 10 and 11 are individually similar in scope to claim 1, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Saito et al. (US 6,523,696 B1)

Venkatraman et al. (US 5,956,487)

Venkatraman et al. (US 6,139,177)

Humpleman et al. (US 6,198,479 B1)

Johnson et al. (US 6,580,950 B1)

Szlam (US 6,359,892 B1)

Nichols et al. (US 6,138,150)

Inquires

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sy Luu whose telephone number is **(703) 305-0409**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm (EST). The examiner can also be reached on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sy D. Luu', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

SY D. LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER